

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims are set forth below. Cancelled and withdrawn claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (previously presented), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously added), (reinstated - formerly claim #), (previously reinstated), (re-presented - formerly dependent claim #) or, (previously re-presented).

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A server to which an operating client and a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating client are connected, said server functioning as a peripheral server with which the operating client operates the peripheral apparatus, the server comprising:

an instruction information storing part which stores a set of operating instructions to be used by said client apparatus to operate the peripheral apparatus via the server; and

an instruction information send part which reads said set of operating instructions from said instruction information storing part in response to a request from said operating client and in further response sends said instruction information to said operating client, where the request is a request of the operating client to operate the peripheral apparatus;

a client communicating part which sends said instruction information to said operating client; and

a peripheral communicating part which sends the instructions received from said operating client via said communicating part to said peripheral apparatus and receives from said peripheral apparatus processing results of said peripheral apparatus performing the instructions,

wherein said client communicating send part sends the processing results received from said peripheral apparatus to said client.

2. (previously presented) The server as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an operating instruction information obtaining part which obtains said operating instructions from said peripheral apparatus when said operating instruction information storing part does not have

said operating instructions corresponding to said request.

3. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a communication protocol accommodation part which accommodates a difference between communication protocols of said client and said peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating client.

4. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said communication protocol accommodation part includes a converter which converts data such that a protocol of said data becomes suitable for said communication protocols.

5. (previously presented) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said peripheral apparatus to be operated comprises a printer.

6. (currently amended) An information processing method of a server to which an operating client and a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating client are connected, said method of the server comprising:

receiving from said operating client a request to operate said peripheral apparatus; and
sending operating instructions to be used by said client apparatus to operate the peripheral apparatus from said server to said operating client in response to said request to operate said peripheral apparatus;

receiving the operating instructions from said operating client;
sending the operating instructions received from said operating client to the peripheral apparatus designated by the operating client;

receiving from the peripheral apparatus processing results of said peripheral apparatus performing said operating instructions; and
sending the processing results received from the peripheral apparatus to the operating client.

7. (previously presented) The information processing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said sending comprises obtaining said operating instructions from said peripheral

apparatus to be operated when said server does not have said operating instructions corresponding to said request.

8. (currently amended) A computer readable medium storing information for causing a server computer system to perform a process, an operating client and a peripheral apparatus to be operated by said operating client being connected to said server computer system, said process comprising:

receiving from said operating client a request to operate said peripheral apparatus; and
sending operating instructions to be used by said client apparatus to operate the peripheral apparatus from said server computer system to said operating client in response to said request to operate said peripheral apparatus;

receiving the operating instructions from said operating client;

sending the operating instructions received from said operating client to the peripheral apparatus designated by the operating client;

receiving from the peripheral apparatus processing results of the peripheral apparatus performing the operating instructions; and

sending the processing results received from the peripheral apparatus to the operating client.

9. (previously presented) The computer readable medium as claimed in claim 8, wherein said process further comprises obtaining said operating instructions from said peripheral apparatus when said server computer system does not have said operating instructions corresponding to said request.

10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A method, comprising:
managing and storing, at a server connected to a client, a list of software commands for operating a peripheral device;
at a client, responding to a user command to operate the peripheral device by requesting ~~from~~ for the server the software command list and then generating an operating command on the basis of the command list received from the server; ~~and~~

sending the generated operating command from the client to the server, which in response sends the operating command to the peripheral device; and using an e-mail to perform the sending.

12. (currently added) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the server is adapted to communicate with the client via a first network by using a first protocol and to communicate with the peripheral ~~device with~~ apparatus via a second network by using a second protocol.

13. (currently amended) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the server is adapted to facilitate shared operation of the peripheral ~~device~~ apparatus by multiple clients.

14. (previously presented) A method of distributing printer instructions on a network, the method comprising:

at a client, starting a print job destined for a network printer over a network by sending from the client over the network a request related to operate the network printer, where the request is formatted according to a first protocol;

receiving the request at a server and in response sending to the client a command list specific to the network printer and for operating the network printer;

receiving the command list at the client;

continuing the print job at the client by preparing a printer command based on the received command list and sending the printer command on the network, where the printer command is formatted according to the first protocol;

receiving the printer command at the server and in response sending the printer command to the network printer in a format according to a second protocol;

receiving the printer command at the network printer and operating according to the command and in response sending to the server indicia of ending the operating formatted according to the second protocol; and

receiving the indicia at the server and sending the indicia to the client formatted according to the first protocol.

15. (currently amended) A method of distributing different command lists for operating respective differently-operated peripheral devices on a network, the method comprising:

at clients, initiating operations of the peripheral devices over a network by sending, over the network, requests related to operating the peripheral devices, where the peripheral devices are each operated by different sets of commands corresponding to the command lists, and the command lists are for operating the respective differently-operated peripheral devices;

receiving the requests at a server and in response sending to the clients, respectively, command lists corresponding to the respective requested peripheral devices, where the server serves handles shared operation of the peripheral devices by the clients;

receiving the command lists at the respective clients;

continuing the operations of the peripheral devices at the clients by preparing respective different operating commands based on the respective received command lists, and sending the operating commands on the network;

receiving the different operating commands at the server and in response sending the operating commands to the respective peripheral devices; and

receiving the different operating commands at the respective differently-operated peripheral devices and the peripheral devices responding by operating accordingly and sending a report of operation;

receiving the report of operation from each of the respective peripheral devices at the server and the server sending the report of operation to the client send the operating command;
and

receiving a report of operation at the client respectively.